

Chase LaSpisa

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Political Science, **University of Iowa** May 2026 (expected)
Dissertation: Maritime Zones of Contention: The Effect of Offshore Fossil-Fuel Resources on Maritime International Conflict and Cooperation
Committee: Sara McLaughlin Mitchell (chair), Brian Lai, Frederick Boehmke, Krista Wiegand
- M.A. Political Science, **University of Iowa** December 2021
- B.A. Political Science, **Oklahoma State University** May 2020
Minors: Economics & Russian Language and Literature
Summa Cum Laude & Honors College Degree

NATIONAL HONORS

- Fulbright Grantee**, 24-25 Fulbright U.S Study/Research Grant Award to Norway 2024-2025

PUBLICATIONS

- LaSpisa, Chase**. 2025. "Dangerous Development: The Effect of Offshore Fossil-Fuel Discovery and Production on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict". *International Interactions* 25 (1): 29-57.
- LaSpisa, Chase** and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell. 2025. "Testing the Waters: Exploring Why Democracies Have More Maritime Conflict". *Foreign Policy Analysis* 21 (2): 1-15.
- LaSpisa, Chase**. 2020. "'Putin Down Protest': Is Widespread Mobilization Possible in the Shadow of the Oil Curse?" *Pi Sigma Alpha Undergraduate Journal of Politics* 19 (2): 21-29.

WORKING PAPERS

- LaSpisa, Chase**. "The Oil-Repression Nexus: Oil Reliance and Government Incentives to Repress"
- LaSpisa, Chase**. The Impact of Border-Proximate Offshore Oil Resources on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict"
- LaSpisa, Chase**. "Revisiting the Resource Location-Conflict Link: The Impact of Natural Resource Proximity on Local Civil Conflict Intensity"
- Millerd, Carly and **Chase LaSpisa**. "Protesting the Patriarchy: Public Gender Attitudes and Women's Mobilization"
- Millerd, Carly and **Chase LaSpisa**. "When it Rains, it Pours: The Effect of Natural Disasters on Low-Scale Social Conflict"

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Relations

Interstate Conflict, Intrastate Conflict, Natural Resource Politics, Maritime Conflict and Cooperation, Environmental Politics and Climate Change

Comparative Politics

Contentious Politics, Social Movements, Resource Curse, Political Economy of Human Rights, Subnational Effects of Environment and Climate Change

RESEARCH & GRADUATE ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Elizabeth Menninga Fall 2023 – Summer 2024

Worked for a collaborative research team led by Elizabeth Menninga and Alyssa Prorok on cooperation between rebels and governments in civil wars. I converted original data from news reports collected from NexiUni into empirical data by identifying instances of cooperation in the news reports and coding them into the project's main dataset. I conducted quality control checks of other research assistant's converted data to ensure the original data followed strict research guidelines. I also participated in weekly research meetings and assisted in refining coding rules for other research assistants to follow.

Research Consultant, ISSRC, Frederick Bhoemke Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

Worked as part of a team of graduate student research consultants managed by the Iowa Social Science Research Center that advised and assisted members of the University of Iowa's research community in conducting original research. I specifically provided consulting services for researchers requiring assistance with data management, statistical analysis, and data visualization, including mapping. I constructed workshops, including presentations and practice datasets, to teach individuals the fundamentals of STATA as well as how to visualize data using STATA.

Editorial Assistant, *American Political Science Review*, Kelly Kadera Fall 2022 - Summer 2023

Worked as the assistant to one of the Associate Editors of *American Political Science Review*, Kelly Kadera. I assisted in reviewer selection and managing the reviewer database for the journal.

Editorial Assistant, *Foreign Policy Analysis*, Brian Lai Spring 2021 - Summer 2022

Worked closely with one of the lead editors of *Foreign Policy Analysis*, Brian Lai, to facilitate the publication of manuscripts post-review. I replicated the data analysis of any empirical manuscript accepted for publication in the journal, communicated with authors and editors, assisted in maintaining the journal database of reviewers and submissions, and prepared manuscripts for publication by ensuring document quality. I replicated the results of empirical manuscripts by accessing provided data files, troubleshooting provided code in both STATA and R, and communicating with authors if any issues occurred.

HONORS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

University of Iowa Post-Comprehensive Fellowship, Declined Spring 2024

Semi-finalist, 2024-25 Fulbright U.S Study/Research Grant Award to Norway Spring 2024

Lynne Rienner Award for Best Paper Presented by a Graduate Student, International Studies Association Fall 2023

Delegate, Bridging the Gap New Era Workshop, University of Denver Fall 2023

Best Seminar Paper, Departmental Award, University of Iowa Fall 2022

Graduate College Recruitment Fellowship, University of Iowa Spring 2020

NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates, University of North Texas Summer 2019

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Workshop Instructor, Iowa Social Science Research Center

Introduction to STATA

Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

Introduction to Data Visualization using STATA

Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa

Introduction to Foreign Policy, undergraduate

Fall 2020

Introduction to International relations, undergraduate

Spring 2021

Introduction to Foreign Policy (online), undergraduate- *Head TA*

Fall 2021-Fall 2022

Guest Lecturer

International Conflict

Fall 2022

Guest lectured on the Outcomes and Consequences of War; prepared a lesson and questions regarding how interstate wars end and the impacts they have both domestically and internationally; illustrated concepts by using the ongoing Russo-Ukrainian War; led guided discussion.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Distinct Impacts of Offshore Oil and Offshore Natural Gas on Maritime Conflict”

American Political Science Association. Accepted to present Fall 2024. Philadelphia, PA.

“From Land to Sea: The Domestic Origins of Maritime Conflict over Fossil-Fuel Resources”

International Studies Association. San Francisco, CA. Spring 2024.

“Testing the Waters: Exploring Why Democracies Have More Maritime Conflict” with Sara McLaughlin Mitchell

International Studies, Midwest. St Louis, MO. Fall 2023.

“Maritime Zones of Contention: The Impact of Maritime Border-Proximate Offshore Oil Resources on Diplomatic Conflict”

European Political Science Association. Glasgow, Scotland. June 2023.

“Revisiting the Resource Location-Conflict Link: The Impact of Natural Resource Proximity on Local Civil Conflict Intensity”

International Studies Association. Montréal, Québec, Canada. Spring 2023.

“Fishing for Oil: The Effect of Offshore Oil and Natural Gas Reserves on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict:”

International Studies, Midwest. St Louis, MO. Fall 2022.

PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Oklahoma State University Department of Political Science Jan. 2017-May 2020

Residential Assistant, Oklahoma State University Housing and Residential Life Jan. 2018-March 2020

Desk Clerk, Oklahoma State University Housing and Residential Life Aug. 2017-Jan. 2020

ACADEMIC SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

At-large Board Member , International Studies Association-Midwest	2022 - 2024
Peer Mentor , Graduate Association of Political Science, University of Iowa	2021 - 2024
Vice-President , Graduate Association of Political Science, University of Iowa	2021 - 2023
Student Union Rep. , Graduate Association of Political Science, University of Iowa	2020 - 2021

ANALYTICAL AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

Software: STATA, R, Tableau, QGIS, ArcGIS, Microsoft Office, SPSS, Qualtrics, and Python (basic)

REFERENCES

Sara McLaughlin Mitchell
F. Wendell Miller Professor
University of Iowa
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Brian Lai
Associate Professor, Department Char
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Elizabeth Menninga
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Holley Hansen
Teaching Assistant Professor
Oklahoma State University
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